Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

bank. We find that for this class of deposits the rapidity of circulation in the Bank of Russia is about 9 and in the Bank of Italy about 5. It is therefore apparent that the adoption of the policy of paying interest by the great banks would diminish their power to economize the use of money. If, for instance, in 1893 the rapidity of the circulation of the Bank of France had been the same as that for the *Credit industriel et commercial*, or 30 instead of 130, the balance necessary to effect a movement of 48,809 millions would have been 1577 millions. As it was, the bank required only 405 millions, so that there was a saving of 1172 millions which could be put to other uses. If, on the other hand, the Bank of France knew how to give its funds the rapidity of circulation enjoyed by the Bank of Germany, it would need a balance of only 295 millions.

Statistics show that the experiences of the Bank of France have followed very closely the succession of crises and liquidations. M. Juglar has shown that certain phenomena always accompany a crisis: (1) The discounts of banks of issue reach a maximum; (2) the reserves reach a minimum; and (3) importations are at the maximum. Liquidations or forced payments follow until the crisis is broken. Now comparison of the movements of the curve expressing the rapidity of circulation in the Bank of France for 85 years, with a series of 25 alternating crises and liquidations brought to light by M. Juglar, shows that in every case the velocity of movement reaches a maximum at the moment a crisis appears, and a minimum at the point of liquidation.

From this the author believes it not impossible to use the statistics showing the current rapidity of circulation as a kind of social barometer; a high reading presaging fair weather, that is, prosperity and commercial activity, a low reading indicating the reverse.

ANITA CORBERT.

Stanford University, Cal.

VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS.

Fifty-Seventh Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England, 1894.

The population for the middle of the year 1894 is estimated at 30,060,763. The marriage rate was 15.1 per thousand living. This is a slight increase from the very low rate of 1893, which was 14.7. The birth rate was 29.6 per thousand persons, this rate being the lowest on record. The death rate was 16.6 as compared with 19.2, which was the average rate for ten years immediately preceding. The death rate for 1894 was the lowest on record, the lowest previous rate being 18.1 in 1888.

In the *Thirteenth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Health of the City of Providence* for 1895 reference is again made to the value of isolation in scarlet fever, and additional statistics are given. The Superintendent is inclined to think that in the majority of cases the children who live in a house where there is scarlet fever, but not in the family with it, may be allowed to attend school. In crowded tenements and among ignorant people this privilege must be withheld. This will, perhaps, mean about one-fourth of all cases. Statistics are given to bear out this statement. Considerable attention is given to the statistics of diphtheria and the use of anti-toxine. Fewer persons were vaccinated in 1895 than in any year since 1890, and it is remarked that there seems to be a growing tendency to object to vaccination.

The difficulty of making an intercensal computation is illustrated on page 39. The census population for June 1, 1890, was 132,146. For January 1, 1893, it was estimated that the population would be 148,944. The census of June 1, 1895, however, showed a population of but 145,472.

In the *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Board of Health of Lowell for 1895*, attention is also called to the difficulty of estimating the intercensal population for that city. The city Board of Health had estimated the city population of Lowell for 1893 as 87,191, and the population for 1894 as 90,613. The State census, however, of 1895 gives the population at only 84,359. A recomputation, therefore, of death rates for intervening years is necessary, and shows a considerable increase. The death rate for 1894, as given in the report for 1894, was 19.69. On recalculation, however, it is 21.38.

Twenty-First Annual Report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health of Michigan for the Year Ending June 30, 1893. Lansing, 1895. Pp. cxxiv, 444.

For the statistician, the most interesting portion of this report is the statistical study of sickness in Michigan in 1892. This study is the sixteenth of a series upon the same general subject begun in 1876, and presents a summary of the compilation of weekly reports of sickness in Michigan in 1892, and includes a series of diagrams which showed by months, in 1892, the rise and fall of 28 of the most prominent diseases in Michigan.

At a meeting of the London Statistical Society, January, 1896, Dr. Arthur Newsholme read a paper on the *National System of Notification and Registration of Sickness.* It was shown that great sanitary improvements had followed from a system of death certificates and registration. Statistical evidence was given, showing the advantage of publicity of the Registrar-General's returns and the consequent efforts on the part of local authorities. Registration of deaths alone, however, give a very imperfect view of the prevalence of disease. The hospital treatment of infectious patients could only be secured, in a majority of instances, through the machinery of compulsory notification of cases. This led to the question of payment of the medical practitioner for notifying each case of infectious disease. The state had no right to require work from private members without giving them a remuneration for it. It was also recommended that the schedule of notifiable diseases should be widely extended. In the discussion which followed there was a general agreement in favor of Dr. Newsholme's recommendation of assistance from the government, though some thought that the proposals went too far.

Fifteenth Annual Report of the State Board of Health of New York. Albany, 1895. Pp. 775. Vol. II, maps and diagrams.

The change in the method of registering birth, marriage, and death certificates by clerks at an annual salary, instead of being paid for by the amount actually done, put into operation February 1, 1893, is referred to as having been successful. Special tables on the epidemic of *grippe* are to be found on page 10.

Thomas Lindsay, in the *Monetary Times* (Toronto, Canada) of March 20, 1896, makes an interesting comparison of the probable ratio of life of members of the Royal Society of London and the experience of the Canada Life Assurance Company. Admissions to the Royal Society are limited to about 15 annually, and the average age at election ranges from 40 to 45. The comparison of Mr. Lindsay is made possible because of the analysis of membership which was made by Lieut.-Gen. Strachey in 1892. At that time a table was compiled of the ages at election of all fellows admitted between 1848 and 1891. The experience of the Canada Life Assurance Company covers a period of 46 years, recording observations upon 35,287.

The record of the Royal Society is found to be fully as good as that of the Canada Life. It appears that those engaged in scientific pursuits have a longer lease of life than the average. "Brain work is not wearing upon vitality; brain worry is."

In the *Standard*, April 11, 1896, is a table showing the results of life insurance in the United States from the date of the organization of the companies to December 31, 1895. The table includes the insurance of 41 companies.

The gross premiums received since organization has been	$2,726,715,898
The gross amount paid policy holders has been	1,827,606,231
The gross assets December 31, 1895, were	1,116,434,143
Payments to policy holders since organization plus present asssets amount to	2,944,040,374
The excess of payments to policy holders plus present assets over premiums received	217,324,476

In *Eyesight and School Life*, by Simeon Snell (Bristol, England: John Wright & Co. 1895. Pp. 70.), is a considerable body of statistics on defective eyesight gathered from various sources. The statistics of Munich, Breslau, St. Petersburg, and other cities, gathered by Drs. Cohn, Erismann, and others, are briefly summarized. Some statistics are also added with regard to myopia in this country.

In the *Sixty-Third Annual Report of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind*, December, 19, 1895, on page 34, are given statistics with regard to the attendance for the past year. During the year 39 new cases were admitted. Of these, one had a blind uncle, one a blind brother, one a blind grandfather, and one two blind uncles. Among the causes of blindness five are classed as congenital.

ANTHROPOMETRIC STATISTICS OF ITALY.

Anthropometria Militare. By the Ministry of War, under the direction of Dr. Ridolfo Livi. Part I: *Anthropological and Ethnological Data.* Rome, 1896. Pp. 419. Maps and diagrams, xxiii.